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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **sHB 5580**

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE PESTICIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL AND THE ELIMINATION OF A MUNICIPAL MANDATE.***

#### **SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Pesticide Advisory Council (PAC), established by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), to review, on an ongoing basis, all new pesticides for safety and effectiveness. (The bill does not define “new pesticides.”) It must report its findings to the DEEP commissioner for his consideration in promulgating regulations.

The bill requires the DEEP commissioner to:

1. create, publish, and regularly update, in consultation with PAC, a report on best practices for municipalities’ safe and effective use of synthetic and organic pesticides;
2. create a regional pesticide purchasing program for municipalities; and
3. review, in consultation with PAC, Massachusetts’ integrated pest management monitoring website to determine whether Connecticut should create a similar website.

Under current law, before holding a public hearing on the sale, lease, or transfer of its real property, a municipality must twice publish a legal notice in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality. The bill eliminates this requirement by allowing municipalities to alternatively publish notice (1) on the municipality’s website or (2) in a weekly print publication having general circulation in the municipality.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014

## **BACKGROUND**

### ***PAC***

According to DEEP's Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, PAC has not convened since the mid-1990s.

### ***Related Bill***

sSB 40, favorably reported by the Planning and Development Committee, permits legal notices (1) to be advertised in weekly newspapers distributed to town residents free of charge and (2) if advertised by municipalities, to include only a brief description of the matter being noticed and a reference to the newspaper's website where the full legal notice can be found.

### ***Legislative History***

The House referred the bill (File 507) to the Appropriations Committee, which reported a substitute that eliminates the original bill's provisions concerning emergency medical services and primary service area responders.

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

### Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 18      Nay 2      (03/25/2014)

### Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 39      Nay 11      (04/22/2014)